

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER
MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH
MCNEIL, USAF RESERVE, RE-
TIRED

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retired United States Air Force Major General Joseph McNeil, a resident of New York's fourth congressional district who is being honored today by the Franklin Square Historical Society.

Fifty-five years ago this month, General McNeil was a 17 year old freshman at North Carolina A&T State University when he and three other freshmen entered a Woolworth's store in Greensboro, North Carolina and sat down at the whites-only counter. They were denied service and asked to leave, but they kept their seats until the store closed. The next morning, they came back with more students. Again they were denied service, and again they refused to leave. They were ridiculed and taunted, but they resisted provocation in their commitment to non-violence. By the fourth day, as news spread, hundreds of students had joined the sit-in, and soon, similar peaceful protests had begun in other towns across North Carolina and beyond the state's borders.

The young men who initiated this wave of civil disobedience live on in American history as the Greensboro Four. Their actions reflect the very best of the American character—the commitment to freedom and justice and equality, and the courage to confront injustice with the force of truth and disciplined nonviolence.

As Black History Month draws to a close, I wish to recognize General McNeil for his instrumental role in a movement that has made the United States of America a better nation and the American people a better people. I wish also to recognize his distinguished service as a decorated officer in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserves for more than three decades. I am tremendously grateful for General McNeil's contributions to our communities in New York's fourth congressional district, and it is my distinct honor to serve as his representative in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL R. SCOTT
JARVIS, USAF

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, in a few short weeks an inspirational military leader will retire after serving his country proudly for over three decades. Today I recognize and commend

Colonel R. Scott Jarvis for his exceptional leadership over those 30 years, most recently as the Deputy Director for Installations and Mission Support, and Command Civil Engineer at Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

The son of a career Air Force officer, Colonel Jarvis graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and was commissioned a Civil Engineer officer in the United States Air Force in 1985. Throughout his career, he earned additional Masters degrees in International Relations, Military Operational Art and Science, and National Security and Strategic Studies.

An outstanding leader throughout his distinguished career, Colonel Jarvis' service has spanned the country with assignments in North Dakota, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Alabama, Rhode Island, and Washington, DC, and stretched across the world with tours in the United Kingdom, Japan, and Germany. He commanded at the squadron and group levels at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, and Kadena Air Base, Japan, respectively. Additionally, he commanded a 13-person deployed Civic Action Team in the remote location of Chuuk, Micronesia, with politico-military responsibilities. Early in his career, Colonel Jarvis also deployed to Turkey and northern Iraq as commander of a 19-person well-drilling team supporting Operation PROVIDE COMFORT I.

Colonel Jarvis has served at both major command and Air Force levels in the programming and housing arenas. Most notably, as Chief of the Unaccompanied Housing Program for the Air Force Civil Engineer, he was one of the original architects of the Air Force Dorm Master Plan, which served as the foundation for the Air Force initiative to replace or renovate every dorm in its inventory. The program vastly improved quality of life for over 70,000 Airmen living in 875 dorms throughout the Air Force.

Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Jarvis served as the Deputy Director for Installations, Logistics, and Mission Support, and Command Civil Engineer, at Headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. In that capacity, he was responsible for all civil engineering activities for over 9,000 civil engineer personnel operating and maintaining USAF's \$15.7 billion physical plant at 10 major installations and numerous smaller installations.

Colonel Jarvis has been recognized for excellence at all levels in the Air Force, to include accolades at the Squadron, Group and Wing levels. In addition to numerous military decorations, his significant recognition includes the 2008 Air Force Major General Robert H. Curtin Award for Most Outstanding Large Civil Engineer Unit, the 1996 Air Force Civil Engineering Staff Action Officer of the Year, and the 1991 Third Air Force Civil Engineering Military Manager of the Year. Additionally, Colonel Jarvis was recognized for invaluable contributions to the engineering profes-

sion in 2013, when he was named to the Society of American Military Engineers Academy of Fellows. This honor is bestowed to a select few engineers each year for dedication to mentorship and outstanding service to the Society and the military engineering profession.

Colonel R. Scott Jarvis epitomizes excellence, integrity and commitment to service. He has dedicated his life to serving our nation and advancing the engineering profession. I join my colleagues today in honoring his admirable service to our nation and all the Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers, Marines, and civilians who have served alongside him. We offer our heartfelt appreciation to Scott, his wife Meg, and their daughters, Maddie and Lucy, and hearty congratulations on his retirement from the United States Air Force.

HONORING MRS. ALMA WALTON
UPON THE OCCASION OF HER
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Alma Walton upon the joyous occasion of her 90th birthday, which was celebrated with her church family on February 22nd, 2015 at Mt. Zion Church of God Holiness in Buffalo, New York.

Mrs. Walton was born in Lexington, Georgia on February 28th, 1925, to her beloved parents Mrs. Annie Sue and Mr. Johnny Wymbs. In 1943, she married Thurmond Walton, and the couple settled in Buffalo the same year. Mrs. Walton has five children, three boys and two girls, and is the proud and adored grandmother of seven.

A longtime member of Mt. Zion Church of God Holiness, Mrs. Walton serves as "Mother" of the church, as well as president of the Sick Committee. She is deeply devoted to and valued by her church community, and is known as "Mother Walton" by her fellow members. Mrs. Walton attends Sunday school faithfully and formerly served as an usher.

Mrs. Walton is well-known for her generosity and spirit. She enjoys sharing her love of gardening and cooking, as well as community service. Mrs. Walton makes lap robes for patients at the VA Medical Center, and has volunteered at many food pantries in the city of Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Alma Walton. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Walton a very happy birthday and congratulate her for reaching this exciting milestone. I wish Mrs. Walton and all those who worship with her at Mt. Zion Church of God Holiness all the best for years to come.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS NATIONAL MARFAN AWARENESS MONTH

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as National Marfan Awareness Month with the hope that increased awareness of Marfan syndrome and related heritable connective tissue disorders will save lives.

Raising awareness of Marfan syndrome, a rare genetic condition affecting 1 in 5,000 Americans, is imperative to finding and funding effective treatment. This debilitating condition affects individuals both externally and internally.

Connective tissue, as a result of the overproduction of a protein called transforming growth factor beta (TGFB), is affected and therefore symptoms manifest throughout the entire body, causing disproportionately long limbs, a protruding or indented chest bone, curved spine, and loose joints.

Understanding the signs and features of Marfan syndrome are important and can save lives. This condition can affect all aspects of a person's internal structures, most notably their cardiovascular system. Often times, the aorta, the larger artery that carries blood away from the heart, is weakened and prone to enlargement and potential rupture. Because of the excess TGFB, Marfan patients are also at risk of aortic aneurysm.

However, early diagnosis and treatment can help to prevent cardiac events. For this reason, I believe States should consider developing programs to include Marfan syndrome testing in their sports screening criteria for at-risk young athletes.

I am proud to represent the Marfan Foundation, the leading organization working to support the Marfan community, based in Port Washington, New York. Since the group's inception, the Foundation has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those affected by this condition through advancing research, raising awareness, and providing support over the past two decades. Through their efforts, patient care has improved and lives have been saved.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me to recognize National Marfan Awareness Month and reflect on the progress that has been made as well as the work that remains in order to ensure that those suffering from rare conditions can expect to see improvements in their health and healthcare.

SARAH GARVEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sarah Garvey as the West Chamber's Young Professional of the Year.

Sarah has served as the president of the West Chamber's Young Professionals Group for the last two years. She has been instru-

mental in raising funds for the Chamber's annual "Pub Crawl for a Cause" and other young professional events. She is also a member of the West Chamber through her company, Shred-It.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sarah Garvey for her honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same commitment to her community in the future.

LIAM FAIRBRASS APPOINTMENT TO UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Mr. Liam Fairbrass on his appointment to the United States Military Academy.

Mr. Fairbrass is an incredibly accomplished young man from Milledgeville, Georgia. Liam is the son of Mark and Emily Fairbrass, and will graduate from the prestigious Georgia Military College Preparatory School. During his time there, Liam has exhibited dedication to leadership while serving as the High School JRTOC Battalion Rank Commander, the highest ranking possible at the institution.

Among his many accolades, Liam also showcased academic prowess by his involvement with the National Honor Society, the Mu Alpha Theta Society, and served as a student government representative.

Mr. Speaker, Liam Fairbrass is also a young man who is also dedicated to improving his community through service. Liam led fundraising efforts for the worthy cause of Wreaths Across America, an organization which works with the Georgia War Veterans Memorial in order to lay wreaths on the graves of veterans.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I understand that Mr. Fairbrass is no stranger to the rigorous work ethic required to be considered as a candidate for the United States Military Academy. With several family members serving as mentors and graduates of the same institution, I am confident that Liam will accomplish his ultimate goal of serving his nation as a United States soldier.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Mr. Liam Fairbrass.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT RANDALL E. PARKER, JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant, outstanding citizen, and hero to his community, Lt. Randall E. Parker, Jr. Sadly, Lt. Parker passed away in the line of duty on Wednesday, February 11, 2015. Funeral services will be held on Monday, February 16, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Macon City Auditorium in Macon, Georgia.

Lt. Parker was a native to Georgia and had served as a firefighter with the Macon Bibb County Fire Department since July 2, 1990.

In addition to risking his life everyday to fight fires in the area, Lt. Parker was very active in his community and went above and beyond to show his love and compassion for those around him. He was heavily involved in his church, Christ Chapel Sportstowne in Macon, and also spent time doing work for United Way, the American Cancer Society, and the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival. He was a loving family man to his wife and sons, and his legacy will live on in the minds and hearts of all those whose lives he touched in Middle Georgia.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind him distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." Although his passing was tragic and before his time, Lt. Parker proved to us all what it truly means to be a hero. He left this world doing what he loved most—serving the people of Macon, Georgia. His impression on this earth extends beyond himself to the very wellbeing of the Macon community, and for it he will be remembered by the community for time to come.

Lt. Parker is survived by his beloved wife of 14 years, Sandie; sons, Andrew and Chandler; mother and stepfather, Gwendolyn and Fred Dixon; brother and sister-in-law, Marcus and Teri Parker; and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District salute Lt. Randall E. Parker, Jr. for his exemplary service to Macon, Georgia as a firefighter and for the ultimate sacrifice he made in the line of duty. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Lt. Parker's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

NAACP ON ITS 106TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank Congressman AL GREEN, who served as president of the Houston Branch of the NAACP for more than 10 years, for hosting this important Special Order. We appreciate your leadership in coordinating this special order to honor the 106th Anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

More than a century ago, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in New York City. The month was February and would later come to mark Black History Month.

As a child of the Civil Rights Movement, I witnessed firsthand the leadership of the NAACP in fight for human rights. I vividly remember the role the NAACP played in shattering segregation in my birthplace of El Paso, Texas and in my personal life.